detective agencies for tackling the problem of terrorism;

(b) if so, the countries and agencies from which such assistance is likely to be received; and

(c) the nature of the said assistance and the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a): There is no such proposal.

(b) and (c): Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Return of Indians to Kuwait

4676. SHRI SURESHNAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the extent of loss to the property left behind by Indians in Kuwait during the gulf war?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): The compensation claims are being consolidated and the actual extent of loss can be ascertained only after the claims have been consolidated.

[*English*]

Status of Darjeeling

4677. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) has recently given an ultimatum to the Centre on the status of the Darjeeling hills as reported in the Telegraph dated February 20, 1992; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b): Shri Subhash Ghising, President of the Gorkha National Liberation Front, has sent communications to the Government requesting to clarify the 'legal' status of the Darjeeling Hills areas, in the context of Indo Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950. Government, however, is of the firm view that since Darjeeling is an integral part of the country there is no room for any ambiguity about its legal status, and thus no further clarification is required.

Project from Bombay High

4678. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects from Bombay High are pending with the Government for sanction;

(b) if so, the details of those projects;

(c) since when these projects are pending;

(d) the reasons for delay in sanctioning the same; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b): Three projects relating

to western offshors submitted by ONGC are being processed for the investment approval of Government. These are:

(i) Second pipeline for gas transportation from south Basin to Hazira and expansion of Hazira terminal.

(ii) ICP- Heera Trunk pipeline.

(iii) Development of R-15A Phase-I.

(c) to (e): These Feasibility Reports were submitted in 1991 and the projects are being appraised by Government.

Alleged Administrative Irregularities In J.T.R.I. Calcutta

4679. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ordered an enquiry into alleged administrative irregularities in Jute Technological Research Institute, Calcutta.

(b) if, so, the out come thereof and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Sir, An inquiry has been ordered into complaints received by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research against the Director of the Jute Technological Research Laboratories, Calcutta.

(b) and (c): The inquiry has not yet been completed.

Price of dry Ginger

4680. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of dry ginger has fallen down; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to stabilise the proce of ginger and boost its exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a): The prices of ginger are ruling in the normal range of Rs. 2050-2100 per quintal despite peak arrival in the procurement centres of Kerala State.

(b): Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for wet ginger is being operated in major ginger producing States i.e. Kerala and Meghalaya for stabilising the price of ginger.

Some of the specific programmes undertaken by Ministry of Commerce for increasing exports of ginger products are as follows:-

1. Development of ginger based products in association with CFTRI.

2. Study mission on spice oils and oleoresins and ginger products in USA and Canada.

3. Study mission on oils and oleoresins and ginger products selected markets in West Europe.

4. Study mission on oils and oleoresins and ginger products selected markets in East Europe.

5. Introduction of use of spice oils and oleoresins and ginger products among various food processing industries in East Europe.

6. Market study mission to Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong for setting up of quality aspects and ex-